

# INCOMING TELEGRAM (77) Department of State

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Action

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FROM: BERLIN

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 331, AUGUST 25, 10 PM

ACTION DEPARTMENT 331, BONN 294; INFORMATION LONDON 219, PARIS 226, MOSCOW 214, POLAD USAREUR 198

PARIS FOR EMBASSY, USRO, STOESSEL AND MCGUIRE.

FOLLOWING IS ROUNDUP BERLIN SITUATION AUGUST 25.

1. EAST BERLIN: BRITISH HAVE INSTITUTED MILITARY PATROLS IN EAST BERLIN WHICH NOW OPERATING IN ADDITION TO U.S. AND FRENCH PATROLS.

BRITISH HAVE PROTESTED TO SOV HEADQUARTERS KARLSHORST NUMEROUS VIOLATIONS THEIR SECTOR BORDER BY EAST GERMANS LAST FEW DAYS, USUALLY DURING WORK ON BARRIERS, WALLS, ETC. THEY INITIALLY ATTEMPTED MAKE PROTEST BY TELEPHONE BUT WHEN SOVS CLAIMED UNABLE TO UNDERSTAND, BRITISH SENT TEXT BY MESSENGER.

SOV CONTROLLER BASC LATE YESTERDAY POLITELY DECLINED ESCORT OFFERED BY U.S. CONTROLLER IN RESPONSE TO HIS COMPLAINT RE MOLESTATION (BERLIN'S 317 DEPT, 282 BONN), SAYING HE KNOWS HIS SAFETY GUARANTEED BY U.S. THIS MORNING SOV CONTROLLER WAS MET AT SECTOR CROSSING BY U.S. CHIEF CONTROLLER BASC WHO INFORMED HIM THAT HE HAD COME TO MAKE CERTAIN THERE NO MOLESTATION. IN ORDER COMPLY WITH SOV CONTROLLER'S WISHES AS EXPRESSED PREVIOUS NIGHT NOT TO BE ESCORTED, U.S. CONTROLLER TOLD SOVS THEY FREE TO PROCEED TO BASC BY ANY ROUTE THEY DESIRED. U.S. CONTROLLER AND MP CAR FOLLOWED SOV VEHICLE. THERE NO INCIDENTS DURING TRIP OR RETURN TRIP OF OUT-GOING SOV CONTROLLER. MP PATROL CAR WILL FOLLOW SAME PROCEDURE EVERY MORNING.

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-2- 331, AUGUST 25, 10 PM, FROM: BERLIN

NO CHANGES IN REQUIREMENTS GOVERNING ENTRY INTO OR EXIT FROM EAST BERLIN NOTED. WEST BERLINERS NOW AS BEFORE CAN ENTER IF THEY CAN PRODUCE INTERZONAL TRADE CERTIFICATE. NOTHING UNUSUAL IN VOLUME OF PEDESTRIAN AND VEHICULAR TRAFFIC REPORTED BY WEST BERLIN POLICE. CONTRARY TO YESTERDAY'S EXPERIENCE, VOPOS PERMITTED THREE U.S. MILITARY BUSES TO ENTER FRIEDRICH/ZIMMERSTRASSE THIS AFTERNOON AND RETURN WITHOUT INCIDENT. ONE MISSION OFFICER IN PRIVATE VEHICLE ENTERED AND EXITED WITHOUT SHOWING ID CARD BUT ONLY AFTER CONSIDERABLE DISCUSSION WITH VOPOS.

CROWDS OF WEST BERLINERS STILL ATTRACTED TO OBSERVE ACTIVITY AT SECTOR CROSSING POINTS. WITH BRANDENBURG GATE AND POTSDAMER PLATZ CORDONED OFF BY POLICE, SIGHTSEERS MOVING TO OTHER POINTS WITH LARGE GROUP CENTERING ON FRIEDRICHSTRASSE CROSSING WHERE ACTIVITY IS GREATEST AND VIEW STILL OPEN TO EAST BERLIN. POLICE REQUIRED TO TAKE ACTION DISPERSE CROWDS HERE AND OTHER CROSSING POINTS. VOPO USED WATER THROWERS AND SMOKE GRENADES FROM THEIR SIDE.

LATE AFTERNOON AUG 24 TRAPO AND VOPO SHOT FROM RAILROAD BRIDGE OVER HUMBOLDT HARBOR AT REFUGEE SWIMMING TO WEST BERLIN, APPARENTLY KILLING HIM. INCIDENT GIVEN CONSIDERABLE PRESS ATTENTION TODAY, ESPECIALLY BY TABLOIDS.

2. WEST BERLIN: SOV JEEP WITH RELIEF GUARDS FOR SOV WAR MEMORIAL, WHICH ENTERED WEST BERLIN AT FRIEDRICHSTRASSE WAS BROUGHT TO HALT BY CROWD, MOSTLY JUVENILES, WHO SURROUNDED VEHICLE AND ATTEMPTED OVERTURN IT. WEST BERLIN POLICE ARRIVED IN TIME PREVENT DAMAGE TO VEHICLE OR DAMAGE OCCUPANTS. INTERIOR SENATOR LIPSCHITZ HAS ORDERED POLICE PROTECTION FOR ALL SOV VEHICLES IN WEST BERLIN. LESS SERIOUS INCIDENT INTERFERENCE WITH SOV GUARDS PROCEEDING TO WAR MEMORIAL OCCURED EVENING AUG 24; POLICE RADIO PATROL CARS PROVIDED ESCORT FOR SOVS. BRITISH SUBSEQUENTLY INFORMED SOV HEADQUARTERS THAT WAR MEMORIAL GUARDS SHOULD ENTER BY SANDKRUG BRIDGE WHERE MILITARY

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-3- 331, AUGUST 25, 10 PM, FROM: BERLIN

POLICE WILL PROVIDE ESCORT. ATTEMPT PASS THIS MESSAGE BY TELEPHONE MET WITH REPLY FROM SOV OPERATOR KARLSHORST THAT NO ONE THERE. MESSAGE THEREFORE SENT IN WRITING.

WEST BERLIN POLICE CLOSED AND SEALED ALL THIRTEEN (ONE EACH BOROUGH AND WEST BERLIN HEADQUARTERS) SED OFFICES. SENAT OFFICIAL EXPLAINED THIS ACTION TAKEN SINCE ALL EIGHT SPD OFFICES EAST BERLIN HAD BEEN CLOSED BY SOVSECTOR AUTHORITIES.

WEST BERLIN POLICE REPORTED SEVERAL INCIDENTS NIGHT AUG 24 OF ROCKS BEING THROWN AT S-BAHN TRAINS. IN ONE INSTANCE OBJECT THROWN ON TRACKS COULD HAVE CAUSED DERAILMENT; TRAFFIC TEMPORARILY HALTED AT NEAREST STATION, BUT LATER RESUMED NORMAL. WEST BERLIN POLICE MADE TWO ARRESTS. SENAT OFFICIAL EXPRESSED OPINION THESE ACTS MIGHT HAVE BEEN COMMITTED BY COMMUNISTS AND INTENDS PUBLICIZE THIS VIEW; SIMULTANEOUSLY SENAT WILL ANNOUNCE INTENTION INSTITUTE IMMEDIATE PROCEEDINGS AGAINST ANY PERSONS CAUGHT IN ACTS VANDALISM, SABOTAGE AGAINST S-BAHN PROPERTY.

ZEHLENDORF MAYOR STIEWE, WHO WAS REFUSED ACCESS TO STEINSTUECKEN DURING WEEK AUG 13 MADE INQUIRY THROUGH INFORMAL CHANNELS WHETHER HE WOULD BE ISSUED PASS VISIT STEINSTUECKEN. STIEWE WAS INFORMED HE MUST MAKE FORMAL APPLICATION FOR PASS, WHICH HE REFUSING TO DO. AUG 23 STIEWE'S LIAISON OFFICIAL IN STEINSTUECKEN VISITED EAST BERLIN POLICE HEADQUARTERS TO OBTAIN PASSES FOR EIGHT TRADESMEN TO STEINSTUECKEN; PASSES ISSUED VALID UNTIL AUG 31. STIEWE NOW INTENDS APPLY FOR 64 MORE PASSES. AS OF MORNING AUG 25 STEINSTUECKEN ACCESS SITUATION NORMAL.

ALL-GERMAN AFFAIRS MINISTER LEMMER ANNOUNCED AT PRESS CONFERENCE TODAY THAT CHANCELLOR HAD INSTRUCTED HIM TAKE NO FURTHER PART ELECTION CAMPAIGN, REMAIN BERLIN FOR TIME BEING SINCE ADENAUER WANTED CABINET MEMBER HERE AT ALL TIMES. ANSWERING QUESTION, LEMMER EXPRESSED HOPE

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-4- 331, AUGUST 25, 10 PM, FROM: BERLIN

NEGOTIATIONS MIGHT BRING ABOUT CHANGE PRESENT SITUATION  
IN WHICH WEST BERLINERS FIND IMPOSSIBLE VISIT EAST SECTOR.

3. REFUGEES: TOTAL REFUGEE ARRIVALS SINCE AUG 13 AND  
THROUGH AUG 23 COUNTED AT MARIENFELDE REPORTED AS 2188.  
REFUGEES ARRIVING SINCE AUG 13 NOW OFFICIALLY TERMED  
BORDER VIOLATORS (GRENZ-BRECHER) BY EAST REGIME.

LIGHTNER

ELP/22

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